

Lake County Recorder

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Commissioners in Action

by MARIAN
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LAKE COUNTY - Lake County Commissioners Bob Aufuldish, Dan Troy and Ray Sines meet at 10 a.m. most Thursdays, with some meetings at 2 p.m. on Tuesdays, in the Commissioners' Chambers on the fourth floor of the Lake County Administration Building, 105 Main St., Painesville.

All meetings are open to the public. Requests to address the government board may be made at any board meeting or presented to the Commissioners' Office by calling Amy Elaszcz at (440) 350-2753.

There was a meeting Jan. 26. The next meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 2 at 10 a.m.

At the Jan. 17 meeting, the following legislation was adopted:

ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT

- Resolution rejecting all bids received on Dec. 14, 2011, approving revised estimate in the amount of \$257,800 and authorizing re-advertising for bids for Bellflower Area Outlet Sewer Replacement Project No. 329-s for the Lake County Department of Utilities with a bid opening date of Feb. 15.

The project would replace 306 linear feet of 15-inch sanitary sewer between Brooks and St. James in Mentor, and 11 linear feet of 8-inch pipe, plus four new manholes. Part of the old line would no longer be used.

The estimated cost of the project is \$257,800. The bids received were all higher than the estimate.

JOB AND FAMILY

SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- Resolution approving Lake County Department of Job and Family Services

vouchers date of warrant Jan. 23, in the amount of \$351,738.13.

The breakdown of the total is: Public Assistance, \$114,311.86; Workforce Investment, \$56,329.74; Child Support Enforcement, \$2,421.12; and Child Welfare, \$178,675.41.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

- Resolution authorizing execution of a sub-grant award agreement in the amount of \$22,719 with the Office of Criminal Justice Services under the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants Program, effective Jan. 1 through Dec. 31.

- The next three resolutions regarding taxes and fees were tabled until the Jan. 24 meeting.

- Resolution to increase the rate of the sales and use tax by one-half of one percent for the benefit of Lake County pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5739.021 and Ohio Revised Code Section 5741.021.

"This resolution and the next two are part of the plan we are proposing at this point," said Commissioner Dan Troy.

- Resolution of intent to reduce the rate of property tax currently levied for current expenses within the 10-mill limitation by the Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.313.

- Resolution of intent to reduce the Lake County Stormwater Management District fees for participating communities by 50 percent of the current collections effective in year 2013.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

- Resolution approving payment of bills as listed on the commissioners' approval journal in the amount of \$804,293.15.

- Resolution approving

purchase orders as listed on the commissioners' purchase order approval journal in the amount of \$656,883.12.

- Resolution increasing appropriations for various general and non general fund accounts.

- Resolution transferring cash and appropriations within various general and non general fund accounts.

- Resolution establishing a fund to be known as border interoperability demonstration project fund with various revenue and appropriation lines.

PUBLIC COMMENT

"The proposal set forth by you is a good one. It will serve for many years to come, for as the county continues to grow, so will the taxes generated by sales," said county resident Shirley Onderisin Fees of the commissioners' proposal to generate more revenue for the county. "Though property tax values have declined, past history suggests this is temporary. My husband and I support and applaud the idea of raising the sales tax by .5 percent while reducing the property tax inside millage from 2.1 mills down to 1 mill."

She felt the Commissioners proposal was more balanced because it took some of the tax burden off property owners.

Fees also felt the townships (which depend on the Sheriff's Office for policing) needed to pay for their police services since they are now more like cities.

The commissioners responded that they had made as many cuts as possible before going to the people. They appreciated that Fees did not just see the sales tax increase but realized the real estate taxes were being reduced as well to offset the sales tax increase.